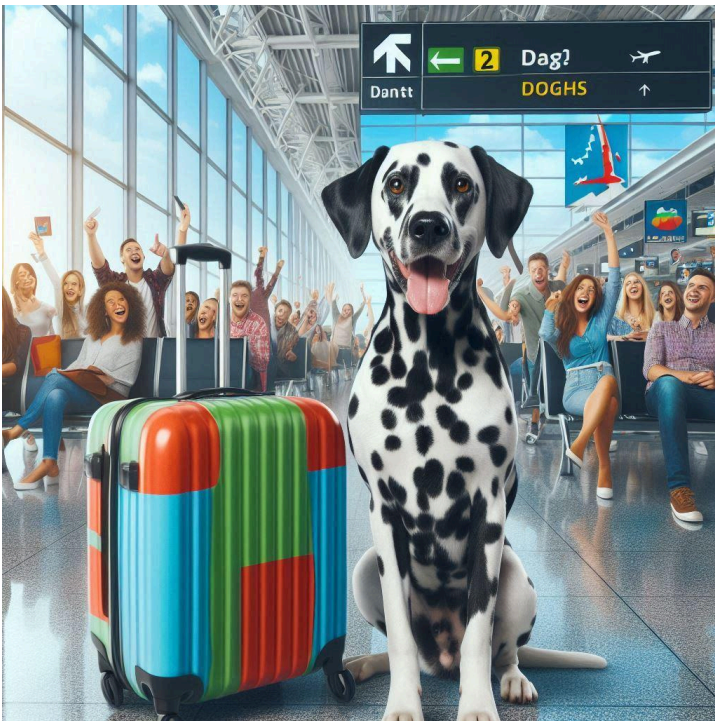


Paw-some Pet Travel: Guide to Traveling with Your Pet

By Marti Gonzales



Are you ready to em-bark (see what we did there?) on a tail-wagging adventure with your furry companion? Traveling with pets can be an enriching experience, but it requires some extra planning and prep work. In 2024, according to a GlobalVetLink survey, about 78% of American pet owners traveled with their pets, showing just how many of us prioritize bringing our four-legged friends along for the ride. As a pet owner, you want to ensure your companion is as comfortable and safe as possible during your journey. So, let's take a look at some pet travel tips to consider before hitting the road, rails, or the skies with your pet in tow.

Pet transportation policies

Not all modes of transportation accommodate pets, so it's important to research your options on reliable sources like the U.S. Department of Transportation website. Airlines typically allow small dogs and cats under 20 lbs. to travel in the cabin for a fee but have strict rules about carrier sizes. Larger pets may have to travel in the cargo hold. Trains and buses often have more relaxed pet policies than planes, but space is usually limited to a few pets per car or bus. You'll need to book well in advance to secure a spot. Road trips are generally the easiest and most pet-friendly option if you plan for breaks every 2-3 hours. You'll also need a secured crate or pet restraint system to keep them safe in the car.

Before you go

Proper identification

It's crucial to ensure your furry companion has proper identification in case they become separated from you. Start by purchasing an ID tag for their collar that clearly displays your home address and cellphone number. You may consider getting a temporary tag with the location and contact information of the hotel or accommodation where you'll be staying. If your pet isn't already microchipped, now is the perfect time. Microchipping is a safe and permanent form of identification that can greatly increase the chances of reuniting with your pet if they ever get lost or escape their collar. See the graphics below for our recommendations of what to put on the ID tag.

Important pet documents

No matter how you travel, you'll need to have your pet's current veterinary records and health certificates ready, - depending on the locality or if going international - and evidence of a recent clean bill of health obtained within 10 days before your journey. Research the exact documentation needed for your destination, which may include a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, Official Health Certificate or proof of rabies vaccinations. For added security, consider taking photos or creating digital backups of your pet's medical history documents to carry with you. You can explore how travel insurance can help protect your vacation investment from unexpected veterinary emergencies. Trip cancellation or interruption coverage are offered with select plans, so unforeseen pet-related incidents don't ruin your plans.

Travel accessories

Introduce your furry friend to their travel carrier or restraint system early and gradually, make it a positive space by leaving it out with treats and toys inside, allowing them to explore and become accustomed to its presence. Consulting your veterinarian about potential anti-anxiety medications, pheromone diffusers, or calming supplements can further help alleviate any travel-related stress or anxiety your pet may experience.

When packing for the trip, organize a dedicated and easily accessible bag with all your pet's essentials, including ample food and water, any necessary medications, waste bags, cleaning supplies, a first-aid kit, toys and activities to keep them entertained, their familiar bedding and bowls and a leash or harness.

Incorporate regular potty breaks, exercise stops, and playtime opportunities into your travel itinerary to keep your pet relaxed, comfortable, and content throughout the journey. A well-exercised pet is likely to be a calmer and more cooperative travel companion, as the physical activity helps burn off pent-up energy and reduce anxiety.

Practice proper "petiquette"

- Keep your furry friends sparkling clean and always well-behaved as a sign of respect to your fellow travelers. Make every journey a pleasant experience, not only for you but also for everyone around you.
- At hotels, ensure your pet remains leashed and sticks to the allowed areas. Strive to leave the room as though your pet was never there before you check out.
- Planning to visit relatives? Always confirm in advance if your pet will be a welcomed visitor.
- Due to health regulations, pets are not permitted inside most dining establishments. However, many restaurants welcome dogs to quietly join their owners at outdoor tables, fostering the perfect dining experience.

Finding a pet-friendly hotel

Once you've figured out how to get there, it's time to find pet-friendly accommodations that will welcome your furry family member. Reserving a pet-friendly place to stay is a breeze, whether booking your hotel online or by using a handy mobile app. You can filter your search to show pet-friendly options—because your travel buddy deserves the best. This makes it simple to browse photos, check reviews and even see pet policies for each location. Once you've found the perfect spot, book it with a tap and you're all set for a paws-itively amazing stay.

While many hotels and vacation rentals are becoming more pet-friendly, policies can vary widely regarding allowable pet types, sizes, fees and amenities. Look for places that charge little to no pet fee, offer designated pet-relief areas, and provide perks like food/water bowls, treats, pet beds or even dog walking and pet-sitting services.

You'll also want to research pet-friendly attractions, restaurants with dog-friendly patios, dog parks, hiking trails and other activities in the area ahead of time. What's a vacation without a little exploration and outdoor adventuring with your best friend by your side?

Travel safety tips for pets

Finally, and most importantly, always prioritize your pet's safety and wellbeing while traveling. Never leave pets alone in a hot car or hotel room, even for just a few minutes - it can quickly become an unsafe situation. Always have cool water and proper shelter available.

With a little preparation and care, you can have a fur-bulous travel experience exploring new places with your beloved pet by your side. Just remember to stay paws-itive, be patient with them, and always put your pet's needs fur-st on your journey.



Pain in pets: what are the signs?

By Charlotte Stiles

Key points

- The cause of a pet's pain doesn't always result in signs pet parents might expect.
- Recognizing signs of pain in pets early on improves the chances of the correct diagnosis and treatment.
- Common manifestations of pain are behavioral, gastrointestinal, postural, and related to changes in movement or body condition.

Recognizing pain in our pets is not only important in helping to keep them as happy as possible but also can help uncover potential problems early on. Saying that, it can be easier said than done! Firstly, pets tend to try to mask their pain, as a protective mechanism. In the wild, visibly weaker animals (for example those in pain) are more at risk of predation. That's why animals will often try to mask their pain to keep themselves safe. Secondly, as much as we'd love them to, pets can't directly tell us where they're hurting or why. That's where your veterinarian comes in! Vets use their training, skills, and experience to diagnose the cause of pain and then prescribe treatment. When it comes to interpreting pain signs in your pet, it's important to take all circumstances into account and not to panic straight away, we'll talk more about this later. In this article, we'll describe some signs of pain to keep an eye out for in your pet.

We've categorized them into the following categories to help you remember them more easily:

- Behavioral changes
- Gastrointestinal system changes
- Movement and postural changes
- Body condition changes.

We'll also explain some causes of pain in pets and what you should do if you think your pet is in pain.

What can cause pain in pets?

As is the case with humans, pain in our pets can be due to a variety of reasons. We've listed some causes of pain in pets below:

- Age – degenerative changes in older pets, or teething in younger pets
- Events – traumatic events (falling from buildings or being hit by a car), or injury during exercise (something sharp stuck in paw pads)
- Diseases and health conditions– inflammation, infections, and inherited conditions
- Veterinary intervention – post-operative pain

What are the signs of pain?

In the next few sections, we'll uncover some signs that a pet could be in pain. Don't forget, these signs are relative to your pet's character, the circumstances, and how long you've observed the specific change. This means, if you notice your pet showing one of these signs, don't jump to the conclusion that they're in pain straight away. It could just be that they're feeling 'off' that day or are particularly tired. A lot of these things come down to experience and how well you know your pet. For example, a dog who's skipped one meal is not necessarily in pain or in need of a veterinary examination. Whereas a dog who hasn't eaten for 24 hours or more, or has other signs like vomiting or diarrhea, should undergo a veterinary examination.

Some pets are more prone to vocalization or skipping a meal than others. So, before you worry, try to think about whether any changes you notice are related to particular circumstances. For example, some pets are more affected by change than others and could show signs associated with pain, such as loss of appetite or vocalization whilst being perfectly healthy. However, there are some emergencies when it's important to take your pet to a veterinarian as soon as possible, we've listed them below:

- Suspected poisoning (try to bring a sample of poop, urine, vomit, or the possible substance with you)
 - Broken bones
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Loss of consciousness (collapsing)
 - Trauma (hit by a car, or falling from a building)
 - Bleeding
 - Coughing up blood, or blood in the urine, poop, or vomit
 - Burns
 - Ingestion of a foreign object
 - Seizures.
-

Let's go through some signs of pain in pets.

Behavioral changes

Examples of behavioral changes which could show that your pet is in pain include:

- Aggressiveness – trying to bite or scratch pet parents, children, or other animals
- Vocalization – ‘crying’, growling, hissing, or groaning
- Shaking or trembling - whole body, or a specific region
- Licking, scratching, excessive grooming, or self-mutilation
- Restlessness
- Playing less
- Decreased tail wagging (dogs)
- Sleeping more than usual
- Decreased interactions with people - rubbing on people (cats), sniffing or welcoming you when you return home (dogs)
- Increased attachment (clinginess)
- Increased heart or breathing rate – in the absence of exercise or warm weather
- Depression – being less active than normal and less responsive to the environment (lethargic).

Gastrointestinal changes

Gastrointestinal changes are commonly linked to pain in pets. Unlike other signs of pain which can be localized to the source of pain (such as lameness), gastrointestinal changes are very non-specific. This means that the following gastrointestinal signs are commonly seen in a range of pet health conditions or diseases that cause pain, even those not directly related to the gastrointestinal system:

- Loss of appetite
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting or nausea (often pets drool when they feel sick)

If gastrointestinal manifestations of pain continue over a longer period (chronically), they can also affect your pet's body condition .

Movement and postural changes

Unlike some of the other signs of pain we've mentioned, movement and postural changes can help pet parents localize a source of pain. For example, lameness caused by a sharp object penetrating your pet's paw can be resolved by checking your pet and removing the object. However, it's not always that easy. For example, sometimes pets with internal diseases can change their posture and lead pet parents to think that a problem is musculoskeletal, rather than internal. An example of this is cats with chronic kidney disease having an arched back or stiffness. Pain can cause changes in movement and posture such as:

- Lameness (limping)
- Stiffness
- ‘Hunched up’ posture
- Crouching
- Difficulty performing movements typically done without a problem – jumping, running, reluctance to use stairs, get into vehicles, enter, or exit their litter box.

Body condition changes

Body condition changes often take more time to develop, so can be an indication of chronic (longer-term) pain. Changes in body condition are not usually direct manifestations of pain but are secondary. A pet in pain can lose weight, not because it's painful when they eat (for example due to problems with their teeth) but because their appetite is decreased. Examples of changes in body condition changes which can be signs of pain are:

- Weight loss
- Asymmetrical appearance of the body due to muscle atrophy
- Poor condition of fur or hair.

What should I do if I think my pet is in pain?

If you think your pet is in pain, although it might be hard, try not to panic. Keep calm and try to see if you can recognize and alleviate the source of pain. Do this by checking them and their environment extensively. However, if your pet is in extreme pain (showing

multiple signs) or is aggressive, it's better to leave them in peace. If you can't resolve the source of pain, it's best to contact your veterinarian. By telling them about the signs and any circumstances in detail, they can then decide whether your pet needs to be examined.

When talking to a veterinarian about your pet's condition, try to tell them as much as possible about:

- Their vaccination status and parasite treatment
- Any events surrounding the change
- How long your pet has been acting abnormally
- The last time they ate, pooped and urinated normally
- Any medication you gave them recently or any known health conditions
- Any recent events in the house which could be related to the pain
- Whether any other animals or people in the house are also affected

The above information will help your veterinarian to diagnose and treat the problem.

Conclusion: signs of pain in pets

Knowledge of your pet's habits, routines, and usual behavior in addition to being observant, are the best tools for spotting signs of pain in your pet. As we mentioned, the signs described are all relative to your pet's specificities (age, characteristics, sex) and environment.



Recent Adoptees!

None to report

FOSTERS SAVE LIVES!

Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado **desperately** needs foster homes. We have four dogs currently needing foster care and two or three more waiting to come in. We can't help these needy Dalmatians without assistance from our community. We are looking for active, out-doorsy people who have secure fences and no cats and who are willing to give these beautiful dogs some time and attention. Visit www.dalmatianrescueco.org to see the Foster Application which can be completed and submitted online.

We know that not everyone is in a position to adopt or foster a homeless dog. You can still help us with a donation of any size, at any time. You might even want to consider a monthly donation. You can donate by clicking the link below to give via Paypal, Venmo or GiveButter.

<https://dalmatianrescueco.org/donate.html>

Become A Dalmatian Foster Family Or Volunteer

When a Dalmatian is scheduled to be put down at a kill shelter, we try to place it in a foster home in order to give it another opportunity to find a permanent home. We desperately need concerned individuals to provide short term or long term foster homes.

What do you get out of fostering? If you like Dals (since you're reading this newsletter, you probably do!), then fostering is a great way to meet and learn about all kinds of Dals - males and females, blacks and livers, young and old. Plus there is the satisfaction of helping an animal that literally may have nowhere else to go!

We are very grateful to those who volunteer their homes and love for needy Dalmatians. But if you can't foster, there are other ways that you can help us. Volunteers can help evaluate dogs in shelters, transport dogs however far, give love and attention to Dals in temporary boarding facilities and help with fundraising. Some volunteers work with those dogs that have special needs, and provide them with food and supplies. We also have (and thank) the many people willing to sponsor a dog financially. We also have volunteers who perform home checks, staff fundraising and educational events.

So, as you can see, there are many ways you can help other than fostering.

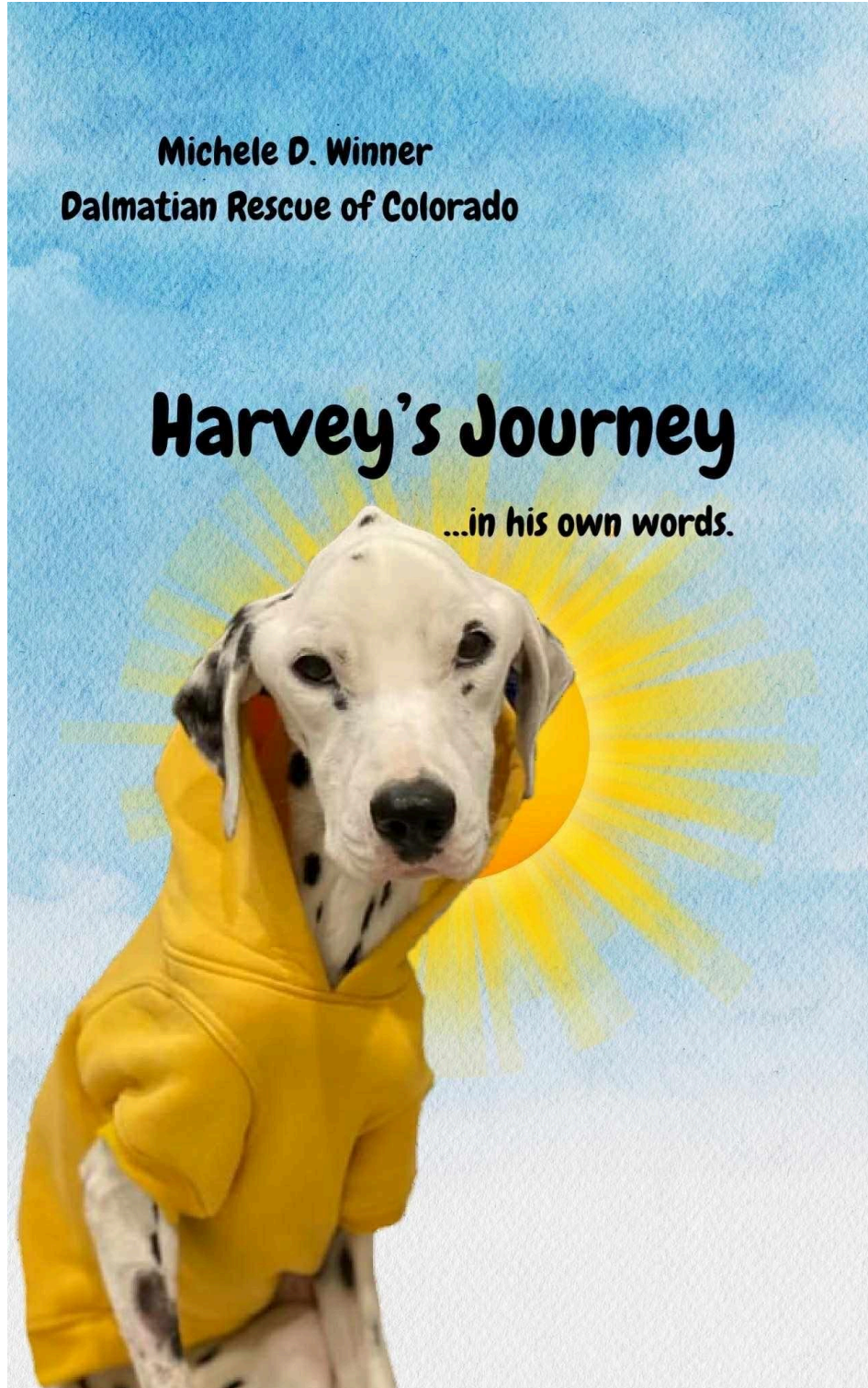
If you want to volunteer and help the dogs of Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, please contact us at the email address below:

info@dalmatianrescueco.org

Join DRC's own rescue Harvey, in his own words, telling the story of his life-changing journey from despair when first rescued back in December -- to sheer joy upon his adoption in June. Through the magic of social media, this heartwarming rescue story has already touched the hearts of nearly 50,000 people and will surely touch yours.

Harvey's unbreakable spirit will astound you and surely bring a smile to your face and lift your spirits. His miraculous recovery has garnered love and compassion from all ages, spanning from the elementary school aged generation to the retirement community. Treat yourself to a positive rescue story from Harvey's point of view. Available in an Amazon e-book and also in paperback.

All proceeds go to DRC.



**Available in either:
Paperback: \$14.99
Or E-Book: \$9.99**

Please click the link below to purchase this book and remember, 100% of book purchases benefit Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado!

[Harvey's Journey ...in his own words: Winner, Michele D.: 9798332160677: Amazon.com: Books](#)

For The Kids (or adults who are kids at heart)



Rainbow-Frosted Dog Biscuits



Make these healthy and delicious dog treats for your favorite four-legged friend.

Biscuit Ingredients:

1-1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1-1/4 cups whole-wheat flour
1-1/4 cups cornmeal
1-1/4 cups old-fashioned rolled oats
1/2 cup toasted wheat germ
1/2 cup packed light brown sugar
1 tablespoon baking powder

1-1/2 teaspoons salt
3/4 cup (1-1/2 sticks) cold unsalted butter, cut into 1
tablespoon pieces
1 cup plus 1 tablespoon water
1/2 cup chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
1/2 cup chopped fresh mint leaves
1 large egg

Frosting Ingredients:

12 ounces nonfat cream cheese, room temperature
2 teaspoons honey

1 teaspoon of vanilla
3 teaspoons of cinnamon

Instructions:

Put oven racks in upper and lower thirds of the oven and preheat the oven to 350° F. Grease 2 large baking sheets.

Pulse flours, cornmeal, oats, wheat germ, brown sugar, baking powder and salt in a food processor until combined. Add butter and pulse until mixture resembles coarse meal with pea-size butter lumps. Add 1 cup water and pulse until a coarse, dense dough forms.

Turn dough onto a lightly-floured surface and knead in parsley and mint until well distributed. Gather, then halve dough with a scraper. Form into 2 balls and flatten each into a 6-inch disk.

Roll out 1 disk of dough into a round (1/3 inch thick) on a well-floured surface with a well-floured rolling pin. (If dough becomes too soft to roll out, wrap in plastic and chill until firm.) Cut out as many biscuits as possible and arrange about 1/4 inch apart on a baking sheet.

Gather scraps and reroll, then cut out more biscuits. Repeat with remaining dough.

Whisk together egg and 1 tablespoon water. Brush biscuits with egg wash and bake. Turn sheets after about 15 minutes. Bake until the tops are golden brown, about 35 minutes total. Turn off the oven and dry biscuits in the oven overnight.

For the frosting:

Combine all ingredients in a large bowl. Beat with a hand mixer until fluffy. Frost cookies with a spatula or fill a pastry bag fitted with a fine tip and pipe onto cookies. Add food coloring, if desired.

Do You Shop Online?

We Have A Way For You To Help Us When You Do!

It's called iGive! They have over 1900 stores participating in their donation program! You're sure to find stores that you already shop at... walmart.com for example. It's really pretty simple. You sign up for free, then shop your favorite store from their link, complete and pay for your order. iGive then completes the donation process behind the scenes and each month they send a check to Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado. Sounds pretty good, right? You shop as you normally would and Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado gets much needed donations without costing you anything! That's what I call a win-win.

Check out iGive at [How iGive Works - iGive.com](http://www.igive.com)

We hope you'll sign up and support Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado every time you shop online!

KING SOOPERS/CITY MARKET COMMUNITY REWARDS



For Colorado supporters (or anywhere King Soopers or City Market operates), Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado has also enrolled in the King Soopers and City Market Community Rewards Program.

To Use the King Soopers or City Market Community Rewards Program, simply visit the appropriate link below.

For King Soopers Stores - go to <http://www.kingsoopers.com>

For City Market Stores - go to <http://www.citymarket.com>

Once logged in to your King Soopers or City Market account, search for Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, Inc., either by name or FR415, and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a loyalty card.

*Customers must have a registered King Soopers or City Market loyalty card account to link to our organization. If you do not yet have a King Soopers or City Market loyalty card, they are available at the customer service desk at any King Soopers or City Market.

REMEMBER, purchases will not count for our organization until after you have registered your loyalty card (the same card that you use to build fuel points). You must swipe your registered King Soopers or City Market loyalty card or use the phone number that is related to the registered King Soopers or City Market loyalty card when shopping for each purchase to count. This does not affect your fuel points!

Drink Coffee. Save Dalmatians.

Every abandoned dog deserves a second chance. At Dalmatian Coffee Co., we use the sale of our single origin and blended coffees to help them find new homes. Twenty percent of our profits benefit Dalmatian Rescue operations (including Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado), no-kill animal shelters, and dog foster care organizations.

You benefit from big, bold flavors — dogs benefit from your giant heart. We don't roast until you order, so your coffee arrives at the peak of freshness.

When you purchase our coffee, apparel, and other items, you'll be part of a small group of rescues listed on our home page that receives an even share of 20 percent of our profits, each quarter.

[Dalmatiancoffeecompany.com](http://dalmatiancoffeecompany.com)



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20% OF PROFITS BENEFIT
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AND OTHER GREAT RESCUES.

dalmatiancoffeecompany.com





Trainer Tips

“Find It – fun game AND useful tool in your dog behavior modification toolbox”

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Have you ever played the Find It Game with your dog? Some people see it as something fun to do with your dog. Others see it as a way to distract your dog from other things. And it can be both of those. But if you don't know how to utilize it as a useful tool in your dog behavior modification toolbox, then you are missing something big.

What is the Find It Game? It might be something else for you, but for us here at The Light of Dog, this is the game: For starters, you need some really good tasty smelly soft treats. Dog biscuits and kibble work well for some dogs, but they are not the best option for many dogs or in more distracting environments. We prefer something that has a nice strong smell. In a low distraction area either indoors or outdoors, say Find It just as you toss a tasty treat on the ground right in front of your dog. Your dog should see it hit the floor and easily gobble it up. Hopefully, your dog turns right back to you in case you want to do that again. Same thing. Take another treat, say Find It. Then immediately toss another tasty treat on the ground close to your dog. Once your dog begins to understand that Find It is your cue that you are about to toss a treat on the ground, your dog hopefully starts to watch for the treat to drop. Or immediately starts looking for it if they didn't see it drop. Once your dog knows the game a bit better, you can toss the treat a bit farther. Then you can toss it somewhere a bit harder to find. At first, you might toss it on the hardwood or tile floor. Then you might try the rug or the sidewalk or a patch of dirt. Then you might try in the short grass. Later, try it in longer grass. Then you can start to toss multiple treats. Or you can toss a treat or treats that your dog did not see.

The goal is to get your dog to engage that high-powered nose and put it to work finding those treats. Once your dog understands the game, you can begin to use it in the backyard. On walks. When there are other things going on that your dog has trouble handling. Or gets just a bit too overstimulated about. The goal is NOT to distract your dog, however. This is a common misconception. Well, either that or it's not being used correctly. You CAN use it to distract. But that's not our goal when we use it. The goal is to learn to engage the nose and search out treats WHEN something else begins that is difficult to handle.

Here's an example of how we utilize it when we have dogs who are dog-reactive when out on walks. You are out on a walk with your dog-reactive dog. Up until now, your dog spots the other dog and acts in a way that embarrasses you in front of your neighbors. Barking. Pulling on leash. Lunging at the other dog. You get the idea. In this case, you spot the dog from a good safe distance. As soon as you notice that your dog has spotted the other dog, you say Find It and toss your treats off to the side of the trail or sidewalk. It is critical that your dog NOTICE THE OTHER DOG FIRST before you start your Find It Game. If you try to start the game before your dog notices the other dog, then you are using it as a distraction and not a useful alternative behavior to reacting to the other dog. That is not our goal. Our goal is for the dog to notice the other dog AND THEN engage in a completely different alternative behavior instead of reacting to the other dog. We are helping your dog learn to engage in a different behavior when noticing other dogs so that we create a new pattern of behavior.

The Find It Game is just one thing that we use for these types of issues. If we start it when the dog is far enough away, we help the dog to know the dog is there but not react to it other than noticing it. We have lots of other things we can do as well, but the Find It Game is an easy one to start with. It does not take direct focus on you. It does not take a lot of brainwork/thought on your dog's part. It merely engages the nose. And that nose is pretty powerful. Once you know HOW to utilize the Find It Game properly, it can become a very useful tool in your toolkit.

For additional training tips and information, you can read our blog at <https://thelightofdog.com/read/> or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

 <https://thelightofdog.com/>

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(This “Ask The Trainer” article is reprinted with permission of Sue Brown, co-owner of The Light Of Dog, a Certified Dog Behavior Consultant. The Light of Dog Training is located in Sedalia, CO and services the Denver Metro Area. <https://thelightofdog.com/>).



NATIONAL KIDS AND PETS DAY - April 26

National Day Calendar •

NATIONAL KIDS AND PETS DAY - APRIL 26, 2025

National Kids and Pets Day on April 26th raises awareness of the importance of picking the right pet for children at the right time. It's an important decision that can lead to a lifetime of bonding between pet and child.

The day also celebrates the bonds children and pets can share and a day to remember safety where our pets and children are concerned. There are many benefits of having a pet in a child's life. From fostering natural nurturing abilities to developing responsibilities, pets have a lifelong impact on a child's development.

It is also important to remember that small children as well as the pets may not know their limitations and should not be left alone with each other. They should always be supervised to prevent injury to both the child and the animal.

Even though dogs and cats are some of the most beloved pets in the United States, pet homelessness is a huge problem in the country. There are about 70 million stray animals in the United States. Up to 8 million of these animals end up in shelters. There are 3,500 animal shelters in the country. It's at these animal shelters that pets receive a second chance. According to the ASPCA, over 3 million shelter animals are adopted each year.

No matter the breed, size, or demeanor of the human, or, canine, the shelter will take the time to find the right home for their animals. They schedule visits and have procedures in place to promote healthy adoptions for families and individuals. While some dogs have experienced injury or illness, the shelters work with veterinarians to heal the animals before making them available for adoption.

HOW TO OBSERVE NATIONAL KIDS AND PETS DAY

- Help kids and pets learn to be good companions to each other.
 - For more information on adopting shelter dogs visit National Adopt A Shelter Dog Month.
 - For those looking for cats and kittens, visit National Adopt a Shelter Cat Month.
 - Use #NationalKidsAndPetsDay to post on social media.
-



NATIONAL PET PARENTS DAY | Last Sunday in April

National Day Calendar •

NATIONAL PET PARENTS DAY - APRIL 27, 2025

On the last Sunday in April, National Pet Parents Day recognizes the pet parents who go the extra mile to care for their fur babies.

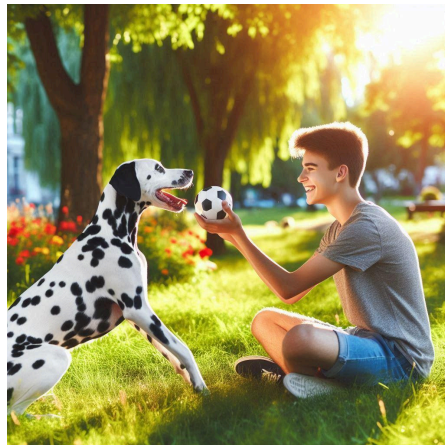
There is a very special connection, a unique bond, between a pet and its owner. This unique relationship, which can often last for many years, is often a vital part of the 'pet parents' life. Their loved pets are considered to be a member of the family. Some pet parents are new to the experience. Others are repeat performers. No matter how many pets or how often they engage in the relationship, it's a special one every time.

The observance was created to honor all dedicated pet parents across the nation with a special day of their own.

HOW TO OBSERVE NATIONAL PET PARENTS DAY

There are a couple ways to celebrate this day.

- Give yourself some extra cuddle time with your pets
- Take a photo with your pet.



Bits & Pieces

Advertising in NewSpots! is FREE!!!

Do you have a business or a hobby that other adopters, fosters, and volunteers might be interested in? Let us help you spread the word by 'advertising' in Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado's monthly newsletter – NewSpots! We currently notify about 1800 people of the new editions of NewSpots! That's a lot of word of mouth and print advertising for **FREE!**

Simply contact the editor, Karl Schill, at karl@dalmatianrescueco.org and he will work with you to provide your ad and place it prominently within the newsletter.

Foster Homes Needed!!

******* Be a Pal, Save a Dal *******

PLEASE – They need YOUR help!! Remember when your rescue Dalmatian came home with you, from the warmth of a loving foster family? If we hadn't had foster homes, you probably would not have gotten YOUR dog. PLEASE think about fostering a dog for the Dalmatian Rescue where you obtained your Dal, or the one closest to where you now live, so they can save lives like they saved your dog's life!! PLEASE give a warm home to a dog who can relax, show his true personality, enjoy a thick bed rather than a concrete floor in a shelter and get ready for a new home. PLEASE help rescues and the dogs so that others might have a dog that is well socialized, trained and ready to love. PLEASE think about this... Dalmatians are everywhere and are literally dying to meet you or someone willing to give them a "spot" to LIVE until their forever home comes along. PLEASE be a spot for rescue and for them?

We thank you and you know any dog you help your local rescue save will be eternally grateful! PLEASE submit a foster application if you can possibly help your local rescue and them! PLEASE take your cookie... good boy/girl!

Reader Recommendations and Tips

This is where we share recommendations and tips from and for our readers. Our newsletter is read by as many as 1800 people each month. That number constantly increases as we have more adopters and adopters recommend it to their friends and family as well. So, go ahead... share your tips and recommendations. Please send along any information you want to share with others, like products that you would recommend, dog toys, great pet insurance, good vets (or bad ones to avoid as well), etc. Is there anything you wish someone had told you about that you have found? Pass it along. Send your ideas, recommendations and tips to Karl at karl@dalmatianrescueco.org for inclusion in the next issue.

I am sorry to say that we have no reader recommendations for this edition of NewSpots! Don't forget, this segment of the newsletter only works if YOU send in recommendations and/or tips to share with other readers.

Recommendations can be anything Dalmatian (or in general, dog) related. A good book you read, how you got your dog to stay off the counter (we all hate counter surfers), treats your dog really likes, a new dog food you tried, dog themed movies... anything really. Just send your recommendation or tip to me at karl@dalmatianrescueco.org.

In The "Spot" Light... Our Featured Dalmatians

Buddy



6 Years Old, Black, Neutered Male

Reason Available: Seizure by Law Enforcement (cruelty and neglect case)

Foster Home: Colorado Springs, CO

WHOA! Buddy is not a "spot"! However, he is friendly, gets along with most everyone, and even has some manners! He loves to be petted and will wriggle his whole body when someone strokes him. He's a medium-sized boy who would make a good family dog.

Buddy's ideal home would be with a playful female or male who won't push too hard and a family who would take him to obedience classes to make him the best dog ever. He loves walks and hikes.

Last May, Buddy went to visit his foster parent's grandnieces (ages 2, 4 and 7) in Texas and was a perfect gentleman with them. He is truly a velcro dog and wants to be near his people. **Buddy was tested this month (March 5th) and is FINALLY heartworm FREE!!!!**

Buddy is located in Colorado Springs, CO, and his suggested adoption donation is \$350. Contact jeannine@dalmatianrescueco.org.

Hartley

1.5 Years Old, Black, Spayed Female

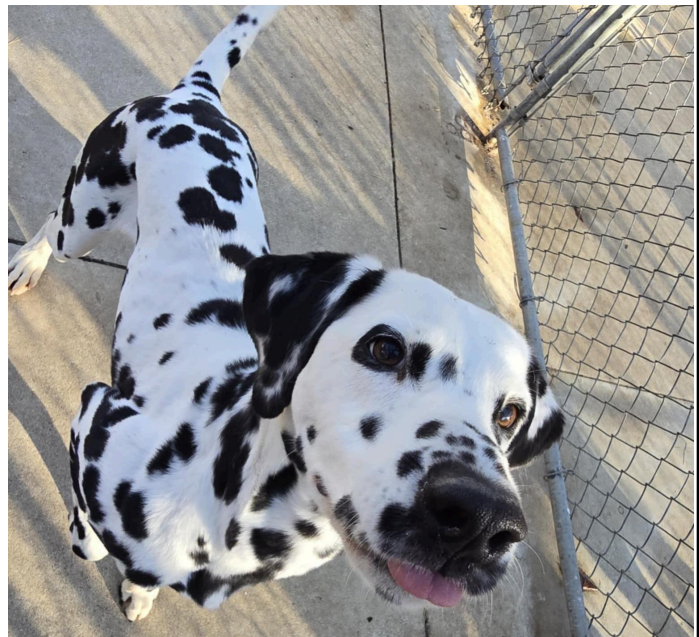
Reason Available: Owner Surrender

Foster Home: Alpharetta, GA

Hartley is a very pretty, petite black and white Dalmatian mix. She may have had an owner prior to the dumper as she knows sit and down. She is a quick learner. Her owner was indifferent to her fate and not too knowledgeable about canine birds and the bees. Shelter staff report that he harshly told his 3 crying children to be quiet.

She is completely loving and involved with her babies. Plays with them constantly.

She is very loving with her foster parents and seeks to join in on "group hugs!" She loves to roll on the grass -- this is so different from her life at the end of a chain!!! Hartley is a quick learner and takes instruction easily. She loves playing with balls and is an enthusiastic participant in Fetch. After a lifetime of being chained, she loves playing outside and running around. She is very ready for a life as a single, childless lady.



Hartley so wants a family of her own. She will need slow introductions to new people in her life as she has been failed by her previous owners. Obedience classes would be a good idea to increase the human-animal bond between Hartley and her new humans. Hartley's suggested adoption donation is \$300. For more information, please contact sandy@dalmatianrescueco.org or jeannine@dalmatianrescueco.org.

Happy Beginnings Stories

Sadly, we have no new Happy Beginnings Stories to share this month.

If you haven't sent your pup's Happy Beginnings Story in yet, it is NEVER too late!

It's never too late to see your story in print!

We got a couple new Happy Beginnings Stories submitted last month!!

Let's keep them coming! If you have adopted your pup from us, regardless of when, and have not submitted their Happy Beginnings story yet, please do it now while it's fresh on your mind.

These stories are the "pay" that fosters get for all their hard work!

About Us

NewSpots! is published and released on the first calendar day of the month. The deadline for submissions for future issues of NewSpots! is the 25th of the previous month. Submissions received after the deadline may be delayed in publication until the following month, subject to the Editor's discretion.

Send submissions to the Editor at karl@dalmatianrescueco.org.

Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) Non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible!

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